

**Preliminary Amendment for Continuation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 of Application
Serial No. 09/277,399 filed March 26, 1999**

REMARKS

Claim 1 (as amended) and claims 2-14, 16 and 17 are claims which were
allowed in the parent case.

New claims 18-30 have been added to claim additional embodiments of the
invention.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by
the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to
show changes made".

Allowance of claims 1-14, 16 and 17, and an action on the merits of new claims
18-30 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 15 has been canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (amended) A liquid distributor, said distributor being in the form of a channel distributor comprising a drainage outlet in the form of a drainage pipe having a cross-section, at the upper end of the drainage pipe, which tapers downward in the shape of a nozzle, wherein the inner wall of the nozzle is comprised of a material resistant to the adherence of solids which would block the flow of liquid through the outlet.

Claims 18-30 have been added.